

1 4. (amended) A device as defined in claim 2, wherein
2 the slots each have a width between 0.1-0.3 mm.

1 5. (amended) A device as defined in claim 2, wherein
2 each slot has a width of 0.25 mm.

1 6. (amended) A device as defined in claim 2, wherein
2 the member comprises a tube and wherein the slots are directed
3 longitudinally of the tube.

1 7. (amended) A device as defined in claim 2, wherein
2 the member is a corrugated member, and wherein the slots are
3 in walls of the corrugation and directed longitudinally
4 thereof.

1 8. (amended) A device as defined in claim 6, wherein
2 the slots are arranged in groups of a plurality of slots.

1 9. (amended) A device as defined in claim 7, wherein
2 the slots are arranged in groups of a plurality of slots.

1 10. (amended) A device as defined in claim 9, wherein
2 the slots are arranged in more than one row.

1 11. (amended) A device as defined in claim 8, wherein
2 the slots are arranged in rows whereby to provide slots both
3 close to the bottom and to the top of the tube in any
4 orientation of the tube.

1 12. (amended) A device as defined in claim 10, wherein
2 the length of each slot is not greater than the longitudinal
3 pitch along a particular row of slots.

1 13. (amended) A device as defined in claim 11, wherein
2 the length of each slot is not greater than the longitudinal
3 pitch along a particular row of slots.

1 14. (amended) A device as defined in claim 12, wherein
2 the slots are staggered along the length of the member.

10 15. (amended) A device as defined in claim 13, wherein
20 the slots are staggered along the length of the member.

15 16. (amended) A device as defined in claim 2, wherein
20 the slots are formed by a laser cutting device.

1 17. (amended) A device as defined in claim 16, wherein
2 the members are selected from a group of materials consisting
3 of stainless steel, brass, aluminum, and plastic.

1 18. (amended) A system for backwashing a filter medium
2 of a filter bed, comprising:

3 (i) a plurality of members as defined in claim 1; and
4 (ii) wherein said members extend substantially in
5 spatial relation one with another and wherein each
6 is connected with a fluid supply means.

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2 19. (new) A system as defined in claim 18, wherein the
2 fluid supply means comprises a supply pipe for each member and
3 a common manifold to which each supply pipe is connected.

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2 20. (new) A filter, side walls and a base, and wherein
there is installed a system as defined in claim 19.

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2 21. (new) A filter as defined in claim 20, wherein the
members extend laterally of the filter.

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